



CITY OF FALLS CHURCH

Office of Communications

703-248-5003
FAX 703-248-5146

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CONTACT:
Dionne C. Williams
(703) 248-5101

The City Conducts its Annual Flushing of its Water Mains

FALLS CHURCH, VA. – Beginning Friday, April 2 and continuing through May 7, the City will conduct its annual spring water main flushing process. The flushing process, which cleans out the sediment and provides routine maintenance to more than 3,500 fire hydrants in the City's service area, requires the City to flush out its water mains by opening fire hydrants and allowing them to flow freely for a short period of time.

To allow for an effective flushing of its water mains, free chlorines are added to the water to ensure that the sediment is successfully flushed out of the water's system. Since a chloramines process primarily treats the water, when the free chlorines are added to the water, water customers may notice some changes.

Water customers may notice slight discoloration in the water; there may be a presence of sediment; and water customers may notice a chlorine taste and odor. These conditions are not harmful, and should not last long.

If water customers are especially sensitive to the taste and odor of chlorine, keep an open container of drinking water in your refrigerator. This will enable the chlorine to dissipate thus reducing the chlorine taste. Remember - drinking water has a shelf life so the water in your refrigerator must be changed weekly.

For those water customers who have an aquariums or ponds, always test the water you add to your aquatic environment to be sure it is free of any chlorine before adding fish or other animals. Chemical additives with directions for removing either free chlorine or chloramines from water for use in fish tanks or ponds are available at pet/fish supply stores.

City crews will flush its mains during the daytime through May 7. Please call the City's Environmental Services Department at 703-248-5080 for more information.

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